

## CLAIMS

1. A laminate comprising  
5 a liquid water resistant and water vapor  
permeable functional layer,  
and at least one leather layer having an outer  
surface and an inner surface,  
wherein the leather layer is openly hydro-  
phobicized and  
10 is laminated with its inner surface  
unmediatedly onto one side of the functional layer,  
the laminate having a water vapor transmission  
resistance (Ret) of less than  $600 \times 10^{-3}$  ( $\text{m}^2 \text{ mbar}$ ) / W.

2. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the inner  
15 surface of the leather layer is the flesh side of the  
leather.

3. The laminate of claim 1, wherein an adhesive is  
situated between the functional layer and the leather  
layer to bond the functional layer and the leather  
layer together adhesively.  
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4. The laminate of claim 3, wherein the adhesive  
is selected from the group of the polyurethanes,  
polyesters, polyamides.

5. The laminate of claim 4, wherein the adhesive  
25 is a copolyester or a copolyamide.

6. The laminate of claim 4, wherein the adhesive  
is a polyurethane.

7. The laminate of claim 4, wherein the adhesive  
30 is a mixture of adhesives from the group of the  
polyurethanes, polyesters, polyamides.

8. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather  
layer has been saturated with a hydrophobicizer from  
the group of the fluorocarbons, silicones or poly-  
siloxanes.

35 9. The laminate of claim 8, wherein the hydro-  
phobicizer is a fluorocarbon.

10. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather layer comprises natural leather.

11. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather layer comprises a leather substitute.

5 12. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather layer has a spray rating greater than 70%.

13. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather layer has a thickness between 0.8 mm and 2 mm.

14. The laminate of claim 13, wherein the leather 10 layer has a thickness of between 1 mm and 1.5 mm.

15. The laminate of claim 1, having a water vapor transmission resistance (Ret) of less than  $400 \times 10^{-3}$  ( $\text{m}^2 \text{ mbar}$ ) / W.

16. ~~The laminate of claim 17 having a water vapor transmission resistance (Ret) of less than  $300 \times 10^{-3}$  ( $\text{m}^2 \text{ mbar}$ ) / W.~~

17. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather layer after complete immersion in deionized water for 1 hour increases by less than 50% in weight compared 20 with a dry laminate.

18. The laminate of claim 17, wherein the leather layer after complete immersion in deionized water for 1 hour increases by less than 10% in weight compared with a dry laminate.

25 19. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the functional layer comprises a textile sheet material which is laminated onto the other side of the functional layer.

20. The laminate of claim 19, wherein the textile sheet material is a woven fabric, a consecutive course 30 formation knitted fabric, a nonwoven fabric or a synchronous course formation knitted fabric.

21. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the functional layer is a membrane or a film.

22. ~~The laminate of claim 1, wherein the functional layer is selected from the group of substances consisting of polyesters, polyamides, polyolefins including polyethylene and polypropylene, polyvinyl~~

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~~chloride, polyketones, polysulfones, polycarbonates, fluoropolymers including polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), polyacrylates, polyurethanes, copolyether esters, copolyetheramides.~~

5 23. The laminate of claim 22, wherein the functional layer is expanded PTFE.

24. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the laminate is waterproof at a water pressure of greater than 0.13 bar.

10 25. The laminate of claim 1, wherein the leather layer has an abrasion resistance of <3 by the Darmstadt method.

15 26. Apparel comprising a laminate as claimed in any of claims 1-25, wherein the outer surface of the leather layer faces away from the body.

27. A process for producing a laminate comprising the following steps:

a) providing an openly hydrophobicized leather layer having an inner surface and an outer surface

b) providing a liquid water resistant and water vapor permeable functional layer

c) providing an adhesive for bonding the leather layer and the functional layer together adhesively

25 d) unmediatedly laminating the inner surface of the leather layer onto the functional layer by joining the adhesive together between the leather layer and the functional layer.

30 28. The process of claim 27, wherein the adhesive is continuously inserted.

29. The process of claim 27, wherein the adhesive is applied in dot form.

35 30. *B* The process of claim 27, wherein the adhesive is applied in pulverulent form.

31. The process of claim 27, wherein the adhesive is applied to one side of the functional layer prior to step b).

32. The process of claim 31, wherein the inner surface of the leather layer is laminated onto the adhesive-provided side of the functional layer.

33. The process of claim 27, wherein the inner surface of the leather layer is provided with an adhesive prior to step a).

10 34. The process of claim 33, wherein the functional layer is laminated onto the adhesive-provided inner surface of the leather layer.

35. The process of claim 28, wherein the adhesive is inserted as a continuous single adhesive layer between the functional layer and the leather layer.

15 36. The process of claim 27, wherein the adhesive is selected from the group of the polyurethanes, polyesters, polyamides.

37. The process of claim 36, wherein the adhesive is a polyurethane.